

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
SAVANNAH DIVISION

CYNTHIA TAYLOR,

Plaintiff,

v.

WAL-MART STORES, INC.,

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 4:17-cv-172 WTM/GRS

**NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446, Defendant Wal-Mart Stores Inc. files this Notice of Removal in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia, Savannah Division, and invokes this Court's jurisdiction over this matter on the following grounds:

1.

This personal-injury action was commenced on or about September 19, 2016 by the filing of the original Summons and Complaint in the State Court of Chatham County, Georgia, styled CYNTHIA TAYLOR v. WAL-MART STORES, INC., Civil Action File No. STCV1601366. Chatham County is within the Southern District of this Court. 28 U.S.C.A. § 90(a)(2). The Complaint and Answer are attached hereto. Copies of all other pleadings and orders served upon Defendant in such action to date will be filed as Composite Exhibit "A" on September 20, 2017.

2.

This case is subject to removal under 28 U.S.C. § 1332.

3.

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. is a publicly traded Delaware corporation whose principal place of business is Bentonville, Arkansas. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. is not a citizen of the State of Georgia at the time of, or immediately prior to, the filing and service of this lawsuit, or at any time thereafter.

4.

Plaintiff's Complaint alleges that Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. negligently maintained the premises of Wal-Mart Store No. 2630 located at 160 Pooler Parkway, Pooler, Georgia 31322 (the "Pooler store") and that, as a result, Plaintiff was injured in a slip and fall accident. (Complaint).

5.

Plaintiff is a South Carolina resident.

6.

As such, complete diversity of citizenship exists between Plaintiff, a resident and citizen of the State of South Carolina, and the Defendant Wal-Mart Stores Inc., a Delaware corporation.

7.

Removal of this action is therefore appropriate pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1441, because Plaintiff is a citizen of South Carolina and Wal-Mart Stores Inc. is a Delaware corporation.

8.

This removal is timely because it has been filed within thirty (30) days after receipt by Defendant, through service or otherwise, a copy of an "other paper" from which Defendant ascertained this case is removable. 28 U.S. Code § 1332 (d)(7). Removal is similarly timely because it has been filed within one (1) year of the commencement of the suit. 28 U.S.C.A. §

1446(c). On or about September 6, 2017, counsel for Defendant Walmart spoke with counsel for Plaintiff by telephone, and Plaintiff's counsel indicated for the first time that Plaintiff's damages well exceeded \$75,000.00.<sup>1</sup>

9.

Plaintiff's Complaint seeks recovery for substantial past and future medical damages. (Complaint at ¶ 19). Based on Plaintiff's counsel's representation to Defendant's counsel, Plaintiff's alleged past medical expenses alone are in excess of \$180,000.00. Therefore, the amount in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, between Plaintiff and Defendant is open-ended and exceeds the sum of \$75,000.00.

10.

This Court has jurisdiction of this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332 (a) and 1441 because complete diversity exists between the parties and the amount in controversy is open-ended and exceeds \$75,000.00.

11.

By service of a copy of this Notice of Removal as evidenced by the Certificate of Service attached, Defendants hereby give notice of such removal to Plaintiff.

12.

Pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 1446, Defendants will file by September 20, 2017 copies of all process, pleadings, and orders served on and filed by Defendants in the State Court of Chatham County, Georgia for the above-styled case.

13.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1447, Defendants are not required to file a removal bond.

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<sup>1</sup> Defendant's removal is based on Plaintiff's counsel's representation that he would formally supplement this damages information through written discovery, therefore constituting "other paper" as defined by the statute.

14.

Written notice of the filing of this Notice of Removal will be given to all parties as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446 per the attached certificate of service.

15.

A true and correct copy of this Notice of Removal will be filed with the Clerk of State Court of Chatham County, Georgia, as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446.

**Wherefore**, Defendant prays that this Court take cognizance and jurisdiction over this claim from the State Court of Wayne County, Georgia, and that this action shall proceed as removed and under this Court's jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. 1332.

This 19 day of September, 2017.

**DREW, ECKL & FARNHAM, LLP**



Jeffrey S. Ward  
Georgia Bar No. 737277  
Attorneys for Defendant  
M. Waite Thomas  
Georgia Bar No. 617667

777 Gloucester Street  
Suite 305  
Brunswick, GA 31520  
Jward@deflaw.com  
Wthomas@deflaw.com

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
SAVANNAH DIVISION

CYNTHIA TAYLOR,

Plaintiff,

v.

WAL-MART STORES, INC.,

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have served the foregoing *Notice of Removal* on all parties by depositing a copy of same in the U.S. mail, with proper postage prepaid and addressed:

David S. Eichholz, Esq.  
The Eichholz Law Firm, P.C.  
530 Stephenson Avenue, Suite 200  
Savannah, Georgia 31405

This 19<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017.

DREW, ECKL & FARNHAM, LLP



M. Waite Thomas  
Georgia Bar No. 617667  
Attorneys for Defendants

777 Gloucester Street, Ste. 305  
Brunswick, Georgia 31520  
912-280-9662



ARKANSAS  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
*Mark Martin*

***Search Incorporations, Cooperatives, Banks and Insurance Companies***

[Printer Friendly Version](#)

LLC Member information is now confidential per Act 865 of 2007

Use your browser's back button to return to the Search Results

[Begin New Search](#)

For service of process contact the [Secretary of State's office](#).

Corporation Name	WAL-MART STORES, INC.
Fictitious Names	BUD'S DISCOUNT CITY BUD'S WAREHOUSE OUTLET BUD'S WAREHOUSE OUTLET FORT SMITH REMARKETING SAM'S CLUB SAM'S WHOLESALE CLUB WAL-MART WAL-MART AVIATION WAL-MART EXPRESS WAL-MART NEIGHBORHOOD MARKET WAL-MART NEIGHBORHOOD MARKET WAL-MART SUPERCENTER WAL-MART SUPERCENTER WAL-MART SUPERCENTER WAL-MART SUPERCENTER #1147 WAL-MART SUPERCENTER #8 WAL-MART VACATIONS WALTON LIFE FITNESS CENTER
Filing #	100067582
Filing Type	Foreign For Profit Corporation
Filed under Act	For Bus Corp; 958 of 1987
Status	Good Standing
Principal Address	
Reg. Agent	THE CORPORATION COMPANY
Agent Address	124 WEST CAPITOL AVENUE SUITE 1900 LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201
Date Filed	03/31/1970
Officers	SEE FILE, Incorporator/Organizer RICKY YOUNG , Tax Preparer DOUGLAS MCMILLON , President JEFFREY J GEARHART , Secretary ANTHONY WALKER , Vice-President CLAIRE BABINEAUX-FONTENOT , Treasurer STEVEN P WHALEY , Controller
Foreign Name	N/A
Foreign Address	702 SW 8TH STREET BENTONVILLE, 72716
State of Origin	DE
<a href="#">Purchase a Certificate of Good Standing for this Entity</a>	
<a href="#">Pay Franchise Tax for this corporation</a>	



CT Corporation

**TO:** Kim Lundy Service of Process, Legal Support Supervisor  
 Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.  
 702 SW 8th St, MS#0215  
 Bentonville, AR 72716-6209

**RE:** **Process Served In Georgia**

**FOR:** Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. (Domestic State: DE)

**Service of Process  
 Transmittal**  
 10/28/2016  
 CT Log Number 530090620

**ENCLOSED ARE COPIES OF LEGAL PROCESS RECEIVED BY THE STATUTORY AGENT OF THE ABOVE COMPANY AS FOLLOWS:**

**TITLE OF ACTION:** Taylor Cynthia, Pltf. vs. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., Dft.

**DOCUMENT(S) SERVED:** Entry, Summons, Complaint, Certificate, Certification

**COURT/AGENCY:** Chatham County State Court, GA  
 Case # STCV1601366

**NATURE OF ACTION:** Personal Injury - Failure to Maintain Premises in a Safe Condition - 05/26/2016 - 160 Pooler Parkway, Pooler, Chatham County, Georgia

**ON WHOM PROCESS WAS SERVED:** Corporation Process Company, Duluth, GA

**DATE AND HOUR OF SERVICE:** By Process Server on 10/28/2016 at 10:54

**JURISDICTION SERVED :** Georgia

**APPEARANCE OR ANSWER DUE:** Within 30 days after service, exclusive of the day of service

**ATTORNEY(S) / SENDER(S):** David S. Eichholz  
 The Eichholz Law Firm, P.C.  
 530 Stephenson Avenue, Suite 200  
 Savannah, GA 31405  
 912-232-2791

**ACTION ITEMS:** CT has retained the current log, Retain Date: 10/28/2016, Expected Purge Date: 11/02/2016  
 Image SOP  
 Email Notification, Kim Lundy Service of Process [ctlawsuits@walmartlegal.com](mailto:ctlawsuits@walmartlegal.com)

**SIGNED:**  
**ADDRESS:** Corporation Process Company  
 2180 Satellite Blvd  
 Duluth, GA 30097  
**TELEPHONE:** 866-286-4469

66515

Civil Action No. STCV 1601366  
 Date Filed 9/19/16

Magistrate Court   
 Superior Court   
 State Court   
 Georgia, Gwinnett County

Attorney's Address  
David Eichholz  
530 Stephenson Avenue Ste 200  
Suwanee, GA 30025

Plaintiff

vs.

Name and Address of party to be served.  
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. C/o  
Corporation Process Company, Agent  
2160 Satellite Boulevard Suite 400  
Duluth, Georgia 30097

Defendant

Garnishee

### Sheriff's Entry Of Service

## Personal

I have this day served the defendant \_\_\_\_\_ personally with a copy of the within action and summons.

## Notorious

I have this day served the defendant \_\_\_\_\_ by leaving a copy of the action and summons at his most notorious place of abode in this County.

Delivered same into hands of \_\_\_\_\_ described as follows age, about \_\_\_\_\_ years; weight, about \_\_\_\_\_ pounds; height, about \_\_\_\_\_ feet and \_\_\_\_\_ inches; domiciled at the residence of defendant.

## Corporation

Served the defendant Wal-Mart Stores Inc. a corporation by leaving a copy of the within action and summons with Linda Banks, R.I. in charge of the office and place of doing business of said Corporation in this County.

## Tack &amp; Mail

I have this day served the above styled affidavit and summons on the defendant(s) by posting a copy of the same to the door of the premises designated in said affidavit, and on the same day of such posting by depositing a true copy of same in the United States Mail, First Class in an envelope properly addressed to the defendant(s) at the address shown in said summons, with adequate postage affixed thereon containing notice to the defendant(s) to answer said summons at the place stated in the summons.

## Non Est

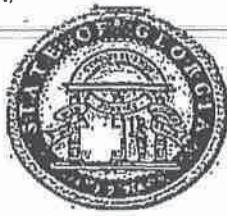
Diligent search made and defendant \_\_\_\_\_ not to be found in the jurisdiction of this Court.

This 28 day of Oct. 2016.

S. K. Bowen J. Ben. Jr.  
 Deputy

Sheriff Docket \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Sc 333  
 Gwinnett County, Georgia



# In The State Court of Chatham County

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 9927, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31412

133 Montgomery Street, Suite 501

www.statecourt.org • Phone (912) 652-7224 • FAX (912) 652-7229 • clerk@statecourt.org

CYNTHIA TAYLOR

Plaintiff

STC160136

Case Number

vs

WAL-MART STORES, INC.

Defendant

Address of Defendant

WAL-MART, INC.  
2180 Satellite Boulevard, Suite 400  
Duluth, GA 30097

## SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT: Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. c/o Corporation Process Company, registered agent  
Defendant's Address 2180 Satellite Boulevard, Suite 400, Duluth, Georgia 30097

You are hereby summoned and required to file with the Clerk of said Court and serve upon Plaintiff's Attorney,  
whose name and address is:

David S. Eichholz  
530 Stephenson Avenue  
Suite 200  
Savannah, GA 31405

an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 30 days after service of this summons upon you,  
exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, Judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded  
in the complaint.

This 19 day of Sept 16

*Brian K. Hart*  
CLERK OF COURT  
State Court of Chatham County

*S. S.*  
Deputy Clerk, State Court of Chatham County

Not valid until  
signed and sealed  
by a Deputy Court  
Clerk



2016 SEP 19 AM 9:32

RECEIVED FOR FILING  
STATE COURT CLERK  
CHATHAM CO., GA

*Brian H. Ghent*

IN THE STATE COURT OF CHATHAM COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

CYNTHIA TAYLOR,

Plaintiff,

vs.

WAL-MART STORES, INC.,

Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO.

S7CV1401346

COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

COMES NOW CYNTHIA TAYLOR, Plaintiff in the above-captioned matter, and states Plaintiff's Complaint against Defendant and shows the Court as follows:

1.

The Plaintiff, CYNTHIA TAYLOR, is a resident of the City of Hardeeville, Jasper County, South Carolina.

2.

Defendant WAL-MART STORES, INC., is a foreign corporation that is authorized to transact business in the State of Georgia and is subject to the jurisdiction of this Court. Service of process may be had on said Defendant by serving its registered agent, Corporation Process Company at 2180 Satellite Boulevard, Suite 400, Duluth, GA 30097.

3.

Defendant, WAL-MART STORES, INC., is a foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this State and is presently doing business and has a store at 160 Pooler Parkway, Pooler, Chatham County, Georgia 31322.

4.

Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 14-25-510(b)(3).

5.

On or about May 26, 2015, Plaintiff was an invitee of the Defendant WAL-MART STORES, INC., on the premises located at 160 Pooler Parkway, Pooler, Chatham County, Georgia.

6.

On or about May 26, 2015, a puddle of clear liquid covered the floor in the hardware department on the premises of Defendant WAL-MART STORES, INC.

7.

The clear liquid on the floor of Defendant's premises constituted a dangerous and unsafe condition.

8.

Plaintiff, CYNTHIA TAYLOR, while on the premises of Defendant WAL-MART STORES, INC., slipped on the aforementioned liquid and fell on the floor.

9.

Defendant WAL-MART STORES, INC. knew or should have known of the dangerous and unsafe condition.

10.

On or about May 26, 2015, the Defendant WAL-MART STORES, INC. did not take any action to rectify this dangerous condition, or to keep customers from passing over the section of the floor where the obstruction was located, or to alert customers of the dangerous condition, prior to the time that the Plaintiff, CYNTHIA TAYLOR, slipped and fell.

11.

The premises of Defendant WAL-MART STORES, INC. were negligently maintained by the Defendant and its agents and employees on May 26, 2015, and more particularly, Defendant was negligent in the failure to exercise ordinary care in keeping the premises and approaches safe.

12.

Plaintiff, CYNTHIA TAYLOR, had no knowledge of the existence of the dangerous and unsafe condition.

13.

All times herein mentioned, WAL-MART STORES, INC. was in control and custody of said premises.

14.

The Defendant's negligence proximately caused the injuries, losses and damages suffered by the Plaintiff.

15.

The Plaintiff, CYNTHIA TAYLOR, sustained substantial and serious injuries, mental and physical, all of which have caused her extreme mental and physical pain and suffering, and she is entitled to recover from the Defendant for her past, present and future pain and suffering.

16.

The Plaintiff, CYNTHIA TAYLOR, sustained injuries as a result of her fall, including but not limited to the following specific physical injuries: back and wrist.

17.

As a result of the Defendant's negligence, the Plaintiff has incurred medical expenses in

excess of \$5,000.00.

18.

As a direct and proximate result of the negligence of Defendant and the injuries caused thereby, the Plaintiff has endured and will continue to experience mental, emotional and physical pain and anguish.

19.

The Plaintiff CYNTHIA TAYLOR should be awarded compensatory damages from the Defendant for her general and special losses in an amount to be determined according to the enlightened consciences of fair and impartial jurors.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays as follows:

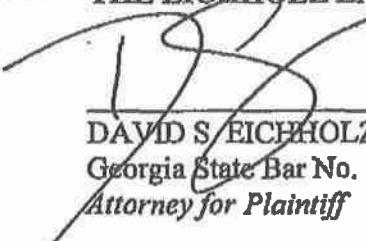
- (a) That Defendant be served with process and be required to answer this lawsuit;
- (b) That Plaintiff CYNTHIA TAYLOR recover recompensive damages from Defendant WAL-MART STORES, INC. for the personal injuries which she has suffered in an amount to be determined according to the enlightened conscience of an impartial jury;
- (c) That Plaintiff CYNTHIA TAYLOR be awarded an amount sufficient to reimburse her for all past, present and future medical expenses and wage losses associated with her injuries;
- (d) That Plaintiff CYNTHIA TAYLOR be compensated for the mental and physical pain and suffering related to her injuries;
- (e) The Plaintiff CYNTHIA TAYLOR be awarded interest at the legal rate on any judgment ultimately rendered;
- (f) That the Plaintiff CYNTHIA TAYLOR have a trial by a jury of twelve (12) persons;

and

(g) That Plaintiff CYNTHIA TAYLOR be awarded any such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

This 2 day of September, 2016.

THE EICHHOLZ LAW FIRM, P.C.

  
DAVID S. EICHHOLZ  
Georgia State Bar No. 502134  
Attorney for Plaintiff

530 Stephenson Avenue, Suite 200  
Savannah, GA 31405  
(912) 232-2791  
(912) 629-2560 (fax)  
[david@thejusticelawyer.com](mailto:david@thejusticelawyer.com)

IN THE STATE COURT OF CHATHAM COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

RECEIVED FOR FILING  
STATE COURT CLERK  
CHATHAM CO. GA

2016 SEP 19 AM 9:32

CYNTHIA TAYLOR,

Plaintiff,

vs.

WAL-MART STORES, INC.,

Defendant.

*Brian T. Start*  
CIVIL ACTION NO.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE PURSUANT TO U.S.C.R. 5.2(2)**

This is to certify that I have served a copy of the foregoing PLAINTIFF'S FIRST SET OF INTERROGATORIES, PLAINTIFF'S FIRST REQUESTS FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS AND THINGS and PLAINTIFF'S FIRST REQUESTS FOR ADMISSION on the following:

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.  
c/o Corporation Process Company, Registered Agent  
2180 Satellite Boulevard, Suite 400  
Duluth, GA 30097

by attachment to the Summons and Complaint to be served by the Sheriff.

This 21 day of September, 2016.

THE EICHHOLZ LAW FIRM, P.C.

DAVID S. EICHHOLZ  
Georgia State Bar No. 502134  
Attorney for Plaintiff

530 Stephenson Avenue, Suite 200  
Savannah, GA 31405  
(912) 232-2791  
(912) 629-2560 (fax)  
[david@thejusticelawyer.com](mailto:david@thejusticelawyer.com)



**In The State Court of Chatham County, Georgia**

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 9927, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31412

www.statecourt.org • Phone (912) 652-7224 • FAX (912) 652-7229 • clerk@statecourt.org

CYNTHIA TAYLOR

Counsel or Party-Counsel or Party

Plaintiff

Case Number

VS

WAL-MART STORES, INC.

Defendant

2016 SEP 19 AM 9:32

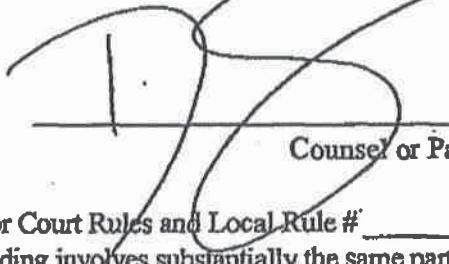
RECEIVED FOR FILING  
WALMART COURT CLERK  
CHATHAM CO. GA.

*Cynthia Taylor*

**CERTIFICATION UNDER RULE 3.2**

Pursuant to rules 3.2 and 3.4 of the Uniform Superior Court Rules and Local Rule # \_\_\_\_\_ of the Eastern Judicial Circuit of Georgia, I hereby certify that no case has heretofore been filed in the State Court of the Eastern Judicial Circuit involving substantially the same parties or substantially the same subject matter or substantially the same factual issues which would require the petition-pleading to be specifically assigned to the judge whom the original action was or is assigned.

This 8 day of SEPTEMBER, 20 16

  
Counsel or Party

OR

Pursuant to Rules 3.2 and 3.4 of the Uniform Superior Court Rules and Local Rule # \_\_\_\_\_ of the Eastern Judicial Circuit of Georgia, I hereby certify that this petition-pleading involves substantially the same parties or substantially the same factual issues as in Case # \_\_\_\_\_

VS

Plaintiff

Defendant

Filed in The Eastern Judicial Circuit of Georgia which under Rule 3.2 of the Superior Court rules require the petition-pleading, be specifically assigned to the Judge whom the original action was or is assigned.

Counsel or Party



READY FOR FILING  
STATE COURT CLERK  
CHATHAM COUNTY, GA

IN THE STATE COURT OF CHATHAM COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

2016 NOV -3 AM 9:09

CYNTHIA TAYLOR,

)

*Brian T. Hart*

Plaintiff,

)

v.

)

WAL-MART STORES, INC.,

)

Defendant.

)

CIVIL ACTION  
FILE NO. STCV1601366

**ANSWER AND DEFENSES TO PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT**

COMES NOW, Defendant Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., and files this Answer and Defenses to Plaintiff's Complaint and shows the Court as follows:

**First Defense**

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. is not a proper party in this matter and must be dismissed. While Defendant denies any and all liability, Defendant states that "Wal-Mart Stores East, LP" is the business entity involved in the day-to-day operation of the Walmart store at issue, and would be the potentially proper defendant in this matter.

**Second Defense**

Pending additional investigation and discovery, Defendant affirmatively preserves any and all defenses based on improper or insufficient service, lack of personal jurisdiction, and improper venue.

**Third Defense**

Pending additional investigation and discovery, Defendant affirmatively preserves any and all defenses based on the doctrine of laches and/or the applicable statute of limitations.

**Fourth Defense**

Pending additional investigation and discovery, Plaintiff's Complaint, taken as a whole, may fail to state a claim against Defendant upon which relief may be granted.

**Fifth Defense**

Pending additional investigation and discovery, Defendant states that Plaintiff's alleged injuries and damages were caused or contributed to by Plaintiff's own actions, or by another party's actions.

**Sixth Defense**

Defendant breached no duty owed to Plaintiff.

**Seventh Defense**

Plaintiff may not recover against Defendant because no act or omission of Defendant was the legal cause or the proximate precipitating cause of Plaintiff's alleged injuries and damages.

**Eighth Defense**

Pending further investigation and discovery, Defendant asserts the defenses of contributory and comparative negligence. Defendant denies that Defendant or Defendant's agents or employees were negligent in any way in connection with the incident which is the subject of this litigation.

**Ninth Defense**

Plaintiff may not recover against Defendant due to Plaintiff's equal or superior knowledge of any condition which she alleges resulted in this event.

**Tenth Defense**

Plaintiff failed to exercise ordinary care for her own safety.

**Eleventh Defense**

Defendant denies any and all allegations regarding negligent inspection and failure to warn.

**Twelfth Defense**

Plaintiff is not entitled to any special damages to the extent that Plaintiff has failed to specifically plead them in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 9-11-9(g).

**Thirteenth Defense**

Plaintiff is not entitled to attorney's fees, expenses, post-judgment interest or pre-judgment interest under the facts of this case. Further, Defendant preserves all rights against Plaintiff to the extent these claims are asserted without any justifiable basis in fact or law. If Plaintiff's claims are determined to be false or fraudulent, Defendant reserves the right to seek all sanctions against all persons allowed by law.

**Fourteenth Defense**

Pending further investigation and discovery, Defendant reserves the right to assert all affirmative defenses available under the Georgia Civil Practice Act.

**Fifteenth Defense**

In answer to the specific allegations of Plaintiff's Complaint, Defendant shows the Court as follows:

1.

Defendant does not have sufficient information at this time to admit or deny the allegations contained within Paragraph 1 of Plaintiff's Complaint, and places Plaintiff on strict proof of same.

2.

Denied as pled. Defendant re-asserts the First Defense.

3.

Denied as pled. Defendant re-asserts the First Defense.

4.

Denied as pled. Defendant re-asserts the First Defense.

5.

To the extent this Paragraph contains a legal conclusion Defendant asserts that no response is required. Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations in Paragraph 5 of Plaintiff's Complaint which are therefore denied by operation of law.

6.

Denied.

7.

Denied.

8.

Denied as pled.

9.

Denied.

10.

Denied.

11.

Denied.

12.

Denied as pled.

13.

Denied as pled. Defendant re-asserts the First Defense.

14.

Denied.

15.

Denied.

16.

Defendant is without sufficient information to admit or deny the factual allegations in Paragraph 16 of Plaintiff's Complaint which are therefore denied by operation of law. To the extent Paragraph 16 contains a legal conclusion regarding Defendant's negligence or the causation of Plaintiff's alleged injuries, Defendant denies those allegations. Any further and remaining allegations are denied.

17.

Denied.

18.

Denied.

19.

Denied.

20.

Defendant denies all allegations contained within Plaintiff's "prayer for relief", which appears immediately after the 19<sup>th</sup> paragraph of Plaintiff's Complaint.

21.

Defendant denies all other allegations of the Complaint which have not been specifically responded to in the previous paragraphs.

**DEFENDANT HEREBY DEMANDS TRIAL BY JURY OF TWELVE  
REGARDING ANY ISSUES NOT SUBJECT TO SUMMARY ADJUDICATION.**

Having fully answered, Defendant prays that it be discharged with all costs cast against Plaintiff.

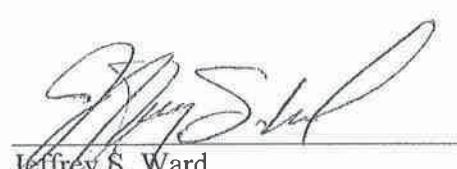
Respectfully submitted, this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2016.

**DREW ECKL & FARNHAM, LLP**

  
Hall F. McKinley, III  
Georgia Bar No. 495512  
Michael L. Miller  
Georgia Bar No. 508011

*by  
express  
permission*

880 West Peachtree Street (30309)  
Post Office Box 7600  
Atlanta, Georgia 30357-0600  
(404) 885-1400

  
Jeffrey S. Ward  
Georgia Bar No. 737277  
M. Waite Thomas  
Georgia Bar No. 617667

777 Gloucester Street  
Suite 305  
Brunswick, Georgia 31520  
(912) 280-9662

*Attorneys for Defendant*

IN THE STATE COURT OF CHATHAM COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

CYNTHIA TAYLOR, )  
Plaintiff, )  
v. ) CIVIL ACTION  
WAL-MART STORES, INC., ) FILE NO. STCV1601366  
Defendant. )

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that I have this day forwarded, via United States Mail, postage prepaid, a true and correct copy of the foregoing *Answer and Defenses to Plaintiff's Complaint* to the following counsel of record, addressed as follows:

David S. Eichholz  
The Eichholz Law Firm, P.C.  
530 Stephenson Avenue, Suite 200  
Savannah, Georgia 31405

This 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2016.

## DREW, ECKL & FARNHAM, LLP

~~James P. Ward~~  
Georgia Bar No. 737277  
Attorneys for Defendant

777 Gloucester Street  
Suite 305  
Brunswick, GA 31520  
(912) 280-9662  
6779144/1  
00001-020001